

Arizona Silver Belt.

AN EXTINCT RACE

"The Private Soldier in the War of the Rebellion."

At the decoration of the graves of the Union soldiers in the National Cemetery at Gettysburg, General B. F. Butler delivered an address on "The private soldier in the war of the rebellion." It was a touching theme. There is always a wonderful pathos in the speech or play or story founded on a life that has ceased to exist. This is the charm of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," this is the power of Joaquin Miller's "Danites," this must have lent tenderness and pathos to General Butler's address.

The "private soldier in the war of the rebellion." He is dead. Or lost. Strayed or stolen, possibly. We do not know where he is, but he is not here. He has gone away to some place. Perhaps he has ceased to be necessary. Perhaps if he were here he would be in the way. At any rate, he is not around. He does not go to the Legislature. We do not find him in Congress. He is not eagerly sought as a candidate for anything. Nobody seems to know anything about him. Occasionally he appears at the pension list, with one leg, a wife and seven children, and \$8 a month. If flour takes much of a rise he will not last much longer at this rate, and we will soon be deprived even of the occasional glimpse we have of him.

It is asserted, and quite generally believed, that at one time he was quite numerous, and was even considered rather convenient, if not, indeed, quite indispensable. It was found that upwards of 100 of him were necessary in order to secure mere line commissions for three eminent and deserving men. When field commissions were wanted for three even more eminent and great men upwards of 1,000 private soldiers were necessary. One thousand! It seems an enormous number now, when by consulting the Congressional directory we find there are none in all this proud republic. But 12 or 15 years ago, even that, incredible as it may appear to us to-day, was considered a small number. There were private soldiers and private soldiers. There were even hundreds of thousands of them.

And they were useful. They dug trenches; they constructed long lines of breastworks; and then, when an enemy came within sight, they climbed over them and went outside of them to fight. They worked and watched and fought. Co-operating with great and eminent men who have since passed to their rewards in one office and another, these private soldiers sometimes rendered very useful service in winning great battles, oh, they were useful. Some historians have even gone so far as to maintain that without them the war could hardly have been carried to a successful termination. They were really quite useful.

And now they are all gone. It seems sad, looking back at the war, that none but the Generals and Colonels and Majors and fine officers should have survived its dreadful ravages. Providence, ever mindful of the wants of a great and growing nation, undoubtedly took special care of these great men, and in its great anxiety that the country should not suffer from a lack of eminent men, kind of forgot the private soldiers and let them wander away. And so they are all gone. Some of them got shot, some of them died. Some of them got married and moved out of the world, to settle upon tracts of Government land, where the Indians could get at them more easily. Some of them went into business. Some of them are teaching school. Some of them are driving dray. Some of them went away, and didn't leave their present address. But all the same, they are all gone, and it seems dreadfully lonesome without them. There used to be so many of them. —Burlington Hawkeye.

A Tucson letter to the Citizen says: An extraordinary fall of rain occurred here on the evening of the 11th instant. Actual measurements showed that 5.8-10 inches of rain fell in one hour and ten minutes. The dusty streets were suddenly transformed to broad and rushing rivers. There were many and simultaneous flashes of vivid lightning and loudest and sharpest thunder. For a while the scene bordered on the terrific. As many as fifty houses were damaged

or destroyed. Roofs fell in, walls toppled over, and some houses were total wrecks. In some instances women and children barely escaped in time to save being crushed under falling roofs or walls or both. Men and women could be seen on Main, Meyers, McCormick and other streets wading up to their armpits in efforts to escape and save their household effects. While there were evidently narrow escapes from the falling of the roofs and walls and mad torrents, yet it is said no lives were lost nor serious injury to persons. The principal mercantile houses resisted the storm and very little loss occurred to or in them. It is said there was a "cloud-burst" on the mesa east of town, but independent of it, the fall of rain in the time is almost unprecedented here or elsewhere.

On the heels of this storm, came the sad news of the death by drowning in White River Canyon at Camp Supply in the Chiricahua mountains, of Lieutenants Rucker and Hecaley of the Sixth Cavalry.

Lieut. Hecaley, in trying to cross the foaming river, was unhorsed and carried down and received a death stroke against a stump or log, and Lieut. Rucker seeing his brother officers critical position, went to his rescue, and was carried away and drowned by the passable current. Their bodies were both recovered the same evening, taken to Camp Bowie and buried on the 18th.

John Bickle was murdered in the house at Burro Springs rancho last Saturday evening. It would appear that he was shot while in a recumbent position, as the ball entered the groin and passed upward through the body. After he was wounded, Bickle seems to have retained his presence of mind and at once closed and fastened the door and proceeded to load his shot-gun. How the killing took place cannot be explained, but it is supposed that the murderers were two men, one of whom had a maimed arm. —Grant Co. Herald.

A New York dry goods drummer, having on his leisure, went into a Patterson foundry the other morning, and going too close to the machinery, a ten-ton trip hammer hit him on the cheek and broke itself all to pieces. He immediately left the town to avoid suit for damages.

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